

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A solid, self-bioadhesive composition for topical application that adheres to the oral mucosal tissue comprising:
  - (a) a therapeutically effective amount of at least one herbal or homeopathic active agent; and
  - (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable solid bioadhesive carrier in an amount from about 40 to 99 percent based on the weight of the whole composition.
2. A solid composition according to claim 1 wherein said composition is in the form of a disc of 2-15 mm diameter and 0.4 to 2.3 mm thick that adheres to oral mucosal tissue for at least 30 minutes
3. A solid composition according to claim 1 wherein said composition is in the form of a disc of 5-11mm diameter and 1 to 2 mm thick with tissue adherence of at least 1 hour.
4. A composition according to claim 1, wherein the herbal active agent is selected from the group consisting of an either anti-inflammatory, analgesic, antiaching, anesthetic, antimicrobial, antifungal, antiseptic, antiviral, antibiotic, and an antiparasite agent and combinations thereof.
5. The composition of claim 1, wherein the herb active agents are selected from the group consisting of bioactive herb extracts, tinctures, essential oils and mixture thereof.
6. A composition according to claim 3, wherein the herb tincture active agents are selected from the group consisting of: Gotu Kola, Echinacea, Salvia officinalis, Hypericum, Myrrah, Camphoria, Uncaria, Elder, Plantago, Baptisia, Calendula, Phytolacca, Catechu black, Coneflower, Krameria, Tsuga, grape fruit seed extract, Rosmarinus, Styrax, Crataegus, Glycyrrhiza, Angelica, Krameria, Matricaria, Mallow, Propolis, Sage. Berberine from hydrastis canadensis L. and other berberidaccae plant family, gentian from the gentianaceae family of plants for the treatment of fungal infections, monoterpenes of three unsaturations, Taraxacum extract, Lonicera flower extract, Scutellaria root

extract, Gardenia fruit extract, Pulsatilla root extract, Pueraria root extract, Radix gentianae Longdancao antifungal agent and combinations thereof.

7. The composition of claim 5, wherein the herb essential oils active agents are selected from the group consisting of: citronella oil, lemon oil, citron oil, pomela peel oil, cedrwood oil, juniper berries oil, lemon basil oil, rosmarinus offencinalis oil, cinnamon oil, cajeput oil, eucalyptus oil, fennel oil, geranium oil, girofle oil, lavender oil, clove oil, spearmint oil, myrte oil, origano oil, pine oil, rosemary oil, sarriette oil, thyme oil, and tea-tree oil.
8. The composition of claim 5 wherein the essential oil is selected from the group consisting of cinnamon oil, tea-tree oil and citronella oil and mixtures thereof.
9. A composition according to claim 7, wherein said essential oil comprises at least one monoterpene with three unsaturations.
10. A composition according to claim 9, wherein said essential oil is a natural or synthetic mixture consisting of limonene, myrcene, a- pinene, b-pinene, sabinene characterized in that at least 60% by weight is limonene.
11. A composition according to claim 9, wherein said monoterpenes with three unsaturations is of citrus oil selected from the group consisting of lemon, pomella and citron.
12. A composition according to claim 6, further comprising a salt selected from the group consisting of  $MgBr_2$ , NaCl, KCl and mixtures thereof.
13. A composition according to claim 6, further comprising Carnallite in a synergistic and effective amount.
14. A composition according to claim 13, wherein said Carnallite is present in an amount of about 5-50% wt/wt of the active composition.
15. The composition of claim 1, further comprising a non-herbal active agent selected from the group consisting of analgesics, steroidal and non-stroidal anti-inflammatory agents, antihistaminic or antiallergics, steroids, antimicrobial drugs,

vitamins, enzymes, anti-allergic drugs, antipyretics, antimalarial, antiulcer drugs, peptides, DNA plasmid and antisense based therapeutic agents,

16. The composition of claim 15, wherein the anesthetic agent is selected from the group consisting of procaine, lidocaine, prilocaine, mepivacaine, dyclonine, dibucaine, benzocaine, chlorprocaine, tetracaine, bupivacaine, and etidocaine and is in the form of the base or an acid-addition salt or both forms.
17. The composition of claim 15, wherein the non-herbal agent consists of dexamethasone, triamcinolone, hydrocortisone, and the like, amphotericine B, nystatin, itraconazole, and the like, chlorhexidine, quaternary ammonium salts, parabens, dextranase enzymes, is in the form of the base or an acid-addition salt or both forms.
18. The composition of claim 4, wherein salts comprising of Carnallite and its individual salts are used to improve the activity of the herbal active agents.
19. The composition of claim 4, wherein the active agent consists of a mixture of natural or synthetic monoterpenes with three unsaturations comprising of: limonene, myrcene, pinenes, sabinene, terpinene, and the like.
20. The active agent of claim 15 comprising a citron oil and Carnallite salt at a weight ratio between 1:10 to 1:1.
21. The active agent of claim 15 comprising a citron oil and Carnallite salt at a weight ratio between 1:10 to 1:1 and a local anesthetic such as lidocaine, benzocaine, or bupivacaine.
22. The composition of claim 1, wherein the self-bioadhesive is a natural, semisynthetic or synthetic polyhydric polymer, a polycarboxylic acid polymer and mixtures thereof.
23. The composition of claim 22 wherein said polyhydric polymer comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, hydroxyethylcellulose, carboxymethyl cellulose, dextran, arabinogalactan, pullulan, gaur-gum, hyaluronic acid,

pectins, starch derivatives, acrylic acid polymers, polymers of acrylic acid esters, acrylic acid copolymers, polymers of vinyl alcohols, alkoxy polymers, polyethylene oxide polymers, polyethers, and mixtures thereof.

24. A composition according to claim 22 in the form of a tablet wherein said adhesive additionally contains one or more members selected from the group consisting of fillers, tableting excipients, lubricants, enhancers, flavors, taste-masking agents, pH controlling compounds, dyes, stabilizers, enzyme inhibitors, and lubricants.
25. A composition according to claim 22 wherein said enhancers are salts of bile acids, limonene and limonene derivatives.
26. A composition according to claim 22 are polyacrylic acid polymers lightly crosslinked with a polyalkenyl polyether and cellulose derivatives and mixtures thereof.
27. A solid self-bioadhesive composition for a topical application that adheres to the oral mucosal tissue comprising:
  - i. a combination of an anti-inflammatory, anesthetic agent and an anti-microbial agent; and
  - ii. a pharmaceutically acceptable solid bioadhesive carrier in an amount from about 40 to 99 percent based on the weight of the whole composition.
28. A solid bioadhesive composition of Claim 27, wherein combinations consisting of: anti-microbials - chlorhexidine, povidone-iodine, picoxidine, iodoform, triclosan; anti-biotics: tetracycline, sulfadiazine, ofloxacin, trimethoprim; anti-fungal: amphotericin B, nystatin, miconazole, triazoles; anesthetics/analgesics: lidocaine, benzocaine, tetracaine, codeine, bupivacaine, cocaine, anti-microbial - chlorhexidine, povidone-iodine, picoxidine, iodoform, triclosan; anti-biotics: tetracycline, sulfadiazine, ofloxacin, trimethoprim; anti-fungal: amphotericin B, nystatin, miconazole, triazoles; antiproliferative /anticollagenase agents; anti-pruritic: camphor, phenol, menthol; anti-viral: acyclovir,

acridineamine; anti-ulcerative: acetoxolone, sucralfate, teprenone, omeprazole; Salts: sodium fluoride, Carnallite and its individual salts.

29. A method for the preparation of a solid, self-bioadhesive composition for topical application that adheres to the oral mucosal tissue comprising the following steps:
  - iii) forming a solid powder of a herbal active agent by drying the herbal liquid extract with an inert component;
  - iv) mixing the herbal active powder with the adhesive inert powders and lubricants; and
  - v) compressing said mixture into tablets of the desired size and shape.
30. A method according to claim 28, wherein said mixture is compressed into a disc form of 2-15 mm diameter and 0.4 to 2.3 mm thick that adheres to oral mucosal tissue for at least 30 minutes or more.
31. A method according to claim 28, wherein said mixture is compressed into a disc form of 5-11mm diameter and 1 to 2 mm thick with tissue adherence of least 1 hour.
32. A method for topical oral treatment, consisting of administering to a patient a composition comprising a terpenoid oil consisting of at least 65% limonene oil in combination with a suitable solid self-bioadhesive carrier.
33. A method for treating and/or preventing, oral mucositis (stomatitis), aphthous lesions, gingivitis in a patient, comprising administering a composition of claim 1.
34. A method for reducing the depth of periodontal pockets in a patient, comprising administering a composition of claim 1.